



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION*

Applicant: Bestgen, *et al.* Docket No.: ROC920010239US1  
Serial No.: 10/014,996 Group Art Unit: 2177  
Filed: 12/11/01 Examiner: LEWIS, CHERYL RENE A

TITLE: DATABASE QUERY OPTIMIZATION APPARATUS AND METHOD  
THAT REPRESENTS QUERIES AS GRAPHS

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In response to the office action dated March 29, 2004, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's rejection of the pending claims.

**STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-20 were originally filed in this patent application. In the pending office action, claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,021,405 to Celis *et al.* (hereinafter "Celis") and U.S. Patent No. 5,999,192 to Selfridge *et al.* (hereinafter "Selfridge"). No claim was allowed. Claims 1-20 as originally filed are still pending.